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*Two-week holiday edition*

# ECHO

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**Setting sights  
on skill  
building**

Cadet Ben Rutter takes aim with his air rifle during marksmanship practice on Tuesday, Dec. 15 at the Haliburton Legion. Open to youth from 12 to 18 looking for fun and physical experiences, the 1129 Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps -Haliburton offers physical activity, practical skills, social interactions and empowerment every Tuesday during the school year from 6:30 to 8:45. Days before the provincial lockdown announcement on Monday, the Cadets had cancelled all in-person training until Jan. 31 due to an increase in COVID-19 cases. They continue to offer online opportunities through Zoom. See more photos on page 13. /DARREN LUM Staff



## Ontario initiates province-wide lockdown, taking effect Dec. 26

**MIKE BAKER**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Ontario government is introducing a new province-wide lockdown in response to escalating cases of COVID-19.

During the announcement on Monday, Dec. 21, Premier Doug Ford said a 28-day lockdown would begin in southern Ontario at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 26, northern parts of the province,

north of Sudbury will be under lockdown for 14-days, until Jan. 8. Earlier reports had suggested the lockdown would come into effect on Christmas Eve, although Ford pointed towards a need to be fair to Ontario businesses and give them a chance to offload inventory prior to closing their doors.

Flanked by Ontario health minister Christine Elliott, chief medical officer Dr. David Williams and Dr. Naveed Mohammad, president and CEO of William Osler Health System, the premier was adamant

that a lockdown was the only measure that could be taken as COVID-19 continues to spread. On Monday, a further 2,123 new cases were reported. There have been 30,875 cases of COVID-19 reported in Ontario since Dec. 6.

"My friends, we have seen in other jurisdictions what out of control caseloads of COVID-19 and deaths look like... This difficult action is without a doubt necessary to save lives and prevent hospitals from becoming overwhelmed in the coming weeks," Ford said. "We have seen a 70

per cent increase in hospitalizations and 80 per cent increase in ICU admissions in the last several weeks."

Ford noted that around 75 per cent of beds in intensive care units are taken up by people who have been involved in car accidents, suffered a heart attack or been struck by another medical emergency. With more and more COVID-19 patients being placed in ICUs across the province recently, Ford said he's worried that Ontario's health care system may soon see PROVINCE page 8

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# Danielsen secures warden seat for third straight term

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen will again serve as Haliburton County warden after a tie vote by county councillors between Danielsen and contender Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin during the county inaugural meeting on Dec. 15 was broken with a name being drawn from an envelope.

Like other council meetings amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, that meeting took place with councillors participating remotely via online conferencing app Zoom, and was broadcast to the public on YouTube.

In late November, both Devolin and Danielsen expressed interest in becoming warden for the upcoming year, mak-

ing speeches to their colleagues. The warden is the head of county council, which consists of the mayor and deputy mayor of each of the county's four lower-tier municipalities. Members of county council decide annually who'll fill the role for the upcoming year. Danielsen has served as warden for the past two years, and Devolin previously held the role in 2017. During the Dec. 15 meeting, following remarks by councillors who'd supported the nominations of Danielsen and Devolin, council took a 15-minute break so that councillors could vote electronically.

"Consistent with the theme of the year 2020, where everything is just a little more complicated, we did have a tie vote," chief administrative officer Mike Rutter said following the break. "So we will be drawing the name from an envelope."

In accordance with the county's bylaw, the mayor of the municipality with the

highest weighted assessment is tasked with drawing the name, so from Dysart et al chambers, Mayor Andrea Roberts drew a name from a sealed envelope opened and held by clerk Mallory Bishop.

Danielsen's name was drawn.

"I know this is rather extraordinary to be warden for three years running, but it's extraordinary times for us all," Danielsen said. "We've got some incredible challenges ahead of us, just starting with the pandemic and continuing to deal with that. And it's sad to say that despite the fact that there are vaccines coming, we're going to be dealing with this for months yet to come."

Danielsen had touted consistency in leadership amid the pandemic in her November speech to council.

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen will serve as Haliburton County warden for an unprecedented third successive term. /File photo



## Health unit advising people 'stay safe and stay home' over the holidays

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

"Home for the holidays" is a saying with extra meaning in 2020, according to the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District acting medical officer of health, Dr. Ian Gemmill.

"With COVID-19 cases circulating and on the rise across much of Ontario, the

need to stay safe and stay home has never been so important this holiday season," said Gemmill.

The health unit is encouraging all residents to avoid holiday gatherings; celebrate the holidays in-person only with those in your immediate household or family; celebrate virtually or connect by phone with family and friends, including those whom you would otherwise not see; avoid non-essential travel, especially to parts of Ontario with high rates of COVID-19 transmission, and in all

instances, stay home if you are sick, staying home and separate until recovery or receiving medical clearance.

"We understand that limiting contacts and holiday festivities this December is difficult to hear at a time usually reserved for seasonal traditions, large family get-togethers and other activities," said Gemmill. "But like so much in 2020, the pandemic has forced all of us to change how we live... and unfortunately, it also means adjusting plans this holiday season to reduce the risk of COVID-19. While we realize the hardships that people have faced and the ongoing sacrifices that they are making, the health unit also asks everyone to keep up the good work by continuing to follow these important COVID-19 prevention measures. They can reduce the spread and help our health care services to respond better to the increasing cases."

Gemmill noted the province's self-assessment website, at covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment to help with guidance and recommendations.

"Ontario is firmly in the grips of the second wave of COVID-19," said Gemmill. "We are seeing it reflected in rising COVID-19 cases locally, as well as worrying province-wide increases in hospital admissions and intensive care unit occupancy due to the virus. Regardless of where we live, be it a grey, red, orange, yellow or green COVID-19 zone, the fact is that our collective actions will make

a huge difference in how bad COVID-19 gets this winter. It should be an extra motivator to take every recommended preventive measure, especially when we know the toll COVID-19 is already taking on our hospitals and health care system. With new COVID-19 vaccines on the way, we need to continue our efforts to contain the spread of the virus."

Gemmill said continuing with COVID-19 prevention measures is critical to reduce the spread of the virus and lessen the load on our health care system.

"No matter who we are, or where we live, we need to stay home if ill; wear a mask when inside public places; practise physical distancing by remaining two metres (six feet) apart from others; wash hands thoroughly and frequently with soap and water; avoid non-essential travel, especially to high risk areas; celebrate the holidays safely, including avoiding large gatherings and only celebrating in-person with those in our immediate household."

Further information and recommendations about celebrating the holidays during the novel coronavirus pandemic is available at www.hkpr.on.ca/2020/10/06/covid-19-holidays-celebrations-and-faith-based-events/.

"The holidays can still be merry and bright, and let's also look forward to a happier, healthier New Year, especially with new COVID-19 vaccines on the way," said Gemmill.

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New Cases Reported Today							
	0 Haliburton	1 KawarthaLakes	16 Northumberland				
Total Confirmed Cases to Date							
	27 Haliburton (HAL)	221 Kawartha Lakes (CKL)	210 Northumberland (NTH)	458 <sup>*</sup> HKPRDHU			

\* The total case counts have been adjusted to reflect regular data cleaning.

COVID-19 Contacts, Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by County							
County	Cases Not Resolved	Cases Resolved	Current High-Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Deaths among Confirmed Cases	Deaths among Probable Cases
Haliburton	0	27	5	0	1	0	0
Kawartha Lakes	4	198	34	0	11	19	13
Northumberland	49	160	180	0	6	1	0

COVID-19 Contacts, Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths, HKPRDHU							
All Counties	Cases Not Resolved	Cases Resolved	Current High-Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Deaths among Confirmed Cases	Deaths among Probable Cases
HKPRDHU	53	385	344 <sup>**</sup>	0	18	20	13

### No new COVID-19 cases confirmed for Haliburton County

The local health unit's Dec. 21 update of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the region shows no new cases in Haliburton County, one new case in City of Kawartha Lakes and 16 new cases in Northumberland County. For more information visit [www.hkpr.on.ca](http://www.hkpr.on.ca). /HKPRDHU screenshot

# Reviewing physician recruitment program

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Haliburton County councillors discussed a number of potential changes to the county's physician recruitment program during a Dec. 16 meeting.

The county has a recruitment committee and a physician recruitment co-ordinator in the form of Cheryl Kennedy, formerly the administrator of the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team. A report received by councillors last week made a number of suggestions, including expanding the scope of the county's recruitment work to clinics outside of its borders that serve its residents, namely the clinics in Kinmount and Dorset.

"The reality is those clinics provide care to a lot of residents of Haliburton County," said chief administrative officer Mike Rutter, explaining it was the recommendation that if 20 per cent of the patients of a clinic were residents of Haliburton County, that the county assist in recruitment efforts.

"That's not significant to me," said Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts, wondering why the figure of 20 per cent had been chosen.

"From my perspective, it was more about numbers," said Rutter, adding that the 20 per cent threshold would mean that for a clinic with 750 patients on its roster, at least 150 of them would reside in the county.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt wondered about the specifics of determining where patients lived, since presumably that would involve accessing their files. Moffatt also wondered at what point the county would approach neighbouring municipalities about funding.

In the case of the Dorset Health Hub, "The roster is full from what I understand, it's very difficult to get in there," Moffatt said. "And I would like to see a conversation between the operators of that clinic and the county before agreeing to this."

"I agree that we need to have a conversation knowing how many people in Minden Hills, including my own family, use the one in Kinmount," said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, adding he too wanted to see what percentage of patients at the clinic were actually from Haliburton County. "Since I've sat in this chair,

“

*This program is really maturing and the fact that there is an interest in having further discussion on this particular part is good news.*

— Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt

there's been more doctors in Kinmount than there has been in Minden."

"This is a fulsome report with suggestions, recommendations for a number of significant changes in this program," said Moffatt. "This program is really maturing and the fact that there is an interest in having further discussion on this particular part is good news."

Among other recommendations was the expansion of the terms of reference for the county's recruitment activities, including the recruitment of rural generalists, nurse practitioners and locums.

"It is a really important part of physician recruitment," Rutter said of locums. "Physician burnout in rural practice is a really significant issue, so this is one area where we can ensure that the physicians get the respite that they require, but also that when they're on that leave of one form or another, that the community is still receiving medical care."

There is also a recommendation to change the financial incentives offered to physicians by the county. Haliburton County currently offers \$25,000 per year to physicians who make a four-year commitment of service, and a maximum payout of \$150,000 for a six-year commitment. Research found that most communities seem to offer incentives of between \$100,000 and \$150,000 for a five-year term. The recommended change is to provide \$25,000 a year for a rural generalist up to a maximum of six years, and \$25,000 per year up to a maximum of four years for family and emergency doctors.

It's also recommended that up to \$5,000 worth of moving expenses for incoming physicians be covered by the county.

## Next court appearances for Hart, Ferguson, in 2021

A preliminary hearing date of March 30, 2021, has been set for Highlands East resident Robert Ferguson, who was arrested and charged with second-degree murder after the death of Dylan Dahlke of Dysart et al in the early morning hours of July 6, 2019.

The next scheduled court appearance in the R. v. Robert Ferguson matter is March 23, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in Courtroom 3 in Lindsay courthouse, located at 440 Kent St. W., according to Brian Gray, spokesperson for the Ministry of the Attorney

General.

Norman Hart, the Dysart man arrested and charged with second-degree murder on June 18, 2019 after Haliburton Highlands OPP were called to a house on Highland Street in Haliburton where they found the deceased body of Robert James Brown, 49, of Haliburton, is next scheduled to appear in court on Jan. 4, 2021 at 2 p.m. A trial date has not been set in this matter.

Staff

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# Field Hooky collaboration celebrates childhood, nature

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Readers familiar with seeing Deborah J. Reed and Janet Trull's names and written work in the *Haliburton County Echo* and *County Life* will now see their names on a colourful collaboration: a picture book celebrating childhood, freedom, nostalgia and nature.

*Field Hooky*, a book featuring Reed's autobiographical poem, illustrated by Trull was created by the two writers and artists working remotely together this year to self-publish the work.

"It's basically my story as a kid from age six to about 12," said Reed. "And that's all. It's innocence, it's freedom, it's beauty, it's just that whole song that the world makes for a kid when a kid isn't encumbered by any tragedies or restrictions."

"It was special," said Trull. "The thing though that I found about her poem, was that the themes really are universal. We all have similar nostalgia for our childhood. Everybody can remember that special time when you were alone in nature and it was powerful."

Reed has been living in Haliburton for the past three years and visiting the area for much longer. After moving to the area, she felt restless, missing the family, friends – Netflix – that she left behind, and said she started writing more and more, works that have been published in this paper.

"On the bus up and down to and from Toronto, I began writing," she said. "I've been doing that for a couple of years, just on my iPhone and sometimes the painting I did happened to match or sometimes I did a painting and then wrote."

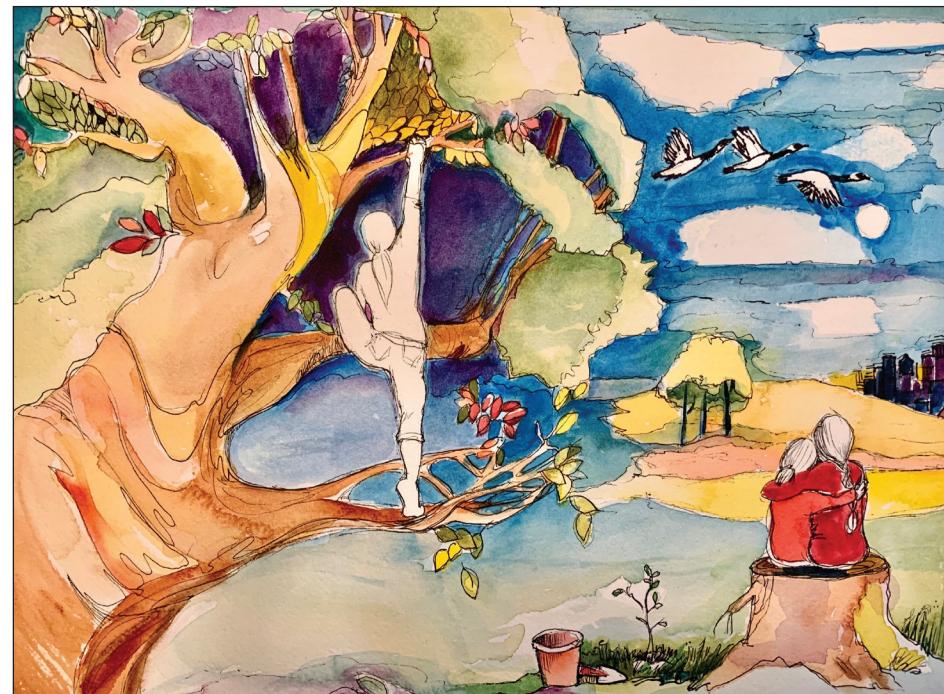
Writing, she said, kept her "out of trouble in terms of loneliness, inertia" as she adjusted to the passing of her father and her mom's dementia, and also helped calm nervousness while on the bus traveling to visit her mom at a long-term care home this year.

"It was curative for my spirit," she said.

But being creative was part of her childhood, too, her love of language coming from her dad, and her passion from her mom.

"I did a lot of writing and drawing as a kid," she said. "I was a really isolated and lonely kid. This poem came from that awkward childhood of mine, being totally in my head and introverted. My mom and dad just let me play by myself at the end of that road and that became *Field Hooky*."

The poem is one of her favourites from her collection of writing, the self-publishing a sort of Christmas gift to herself, but



The last illustration in the book *Field Hooky* written by Deborah J. Reed and illustrated by Janet Trull. "On the left, the mother's memory of climbing a tree," said Trull. "On the right, she comes back years later with her daughter only to find the tree is gone. But they plant a new sapling. Our shared relationship with nature is an important one."

also to her children, their children, and even former students who have ordered a copy of *Field Hooky*.

"It's just making a lot of people feel good right now," said Reed.

Reed asked Trull if she might want to collaborate on the project after seeing her creative work, turning to her to illustrate the poem.

"It's so personal for me and powerful for me that I don't want to touch it with my paintbrush, I want somebody else to figure this out for me."

Trull, Reed laughs, had high-speed internet, enabling her to lay the book out. But besides that, she was able to create the visuals for Reed's memories.

"I needed her," said Reed. "I needed her experience, her vision, her generosity, and she just jumped right on board. I was very flattered and blown away by what happened."

Trull said yes right away.

"I love it when people ask," laughed Trull. "She phoned and asked if I would illustrate it and I said yes. I very rarely turn down the chance to do something that's new and creative and the chance to work with somebody new and get to know them. It's just, that's the great thing about Haliburton, there's so many creative people and opportunities to test your creativity. There are a lot of people out there and I think you have to just say yes when somebody comes up with a good plan."

Also a former teacher, Trull said she often encouraged her students to avoid using a pencil, which then leads to erasing lines that have been put down. Instead, she starts with a Sharpie.

"I always sketch with a Sharpie and you just trust that you're going to come up with an illustration that is OK. I enjoyed putting my Sharpie on the page and seeing what happened."

The pair worked together to add a woodland creature, a sort of talisman on each page to follow along with the child in the poem, to help bridge a gap between generations, with modern-day parents potentially feeling uneasy with a child exploring by herself in a field.

"I think my favourite is the final illustration in the book because it shows the ghost of a girl climbing a big tree, and then on the other side it shows mother, who brought her daughter back to the meadow to show her where she grew up and to show her the big climbing tree," said Trull. "Of course the climbing tree is gone so they're sitting on a stump and looking over the meadow and how it's changed but there's a little pail and trowel and sapling to show they've planted a new tree. That was my connection between the generations, and hopefully people will see that connection, that our stories from our childhood are good ones to connect to the kids today."

Trull called it a colourful story, and an enjoyable experience to work on with



Deborah J. Reed has published an autobiographical poem about a segment of her childhood, self-publishing a book called *Field Hooky*. /Submitted



Janet Trull created the illustrations for Deborah J. Reed's new book, *Field Hooky*. /Submitted

Reed.

"Especially right now, people are trying to get their kids outside and tell the tales of a time when there was more freedom for kids to wander," said Trull. "We've actually imposed a lot of restrictions on kids that didn't exist before so it is nice to remember the forest and the meadow and all those places are actually pretty friendly."

When more copies of *Field Hooky* arrive at the end of December, they will be available at the Rails End Gallery in Haliburton.

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# Delancey Sports, a small slice of the Big Apple here in Haliburton

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

There's almost always a story behind a name, and as it turns out Haliburton's newest downtown business has a pretty neat one.

Delancey Sports opened to the public on Friday, Dec. 11. The new store specializes in providing high-level seasonal sports gear to residents at a knockdown price, say owners Erika Mozes and Josh Karam, Canadian entrepreneurs who recently relocated to the Haliburton area after five years living among the hustle and bustle of New York City.

And, getting back to the name, it's the Big Apple that served up the inspiration for the christening of the couple's newest venture.

"Erika and I run another company called Hyr [pronounced hire], which was headquartered out of New York City. We've been living there, half time, for around five years. We had to abandon our apartment there in March for obvious reasons, at the time not knowing that we were never going to go back and see that place again," Karam told the *Echo*. "Our lease expired in May and everything we had was just left there. I thought we'd go back at some point, but we never did. That apartment was on the corner of Suffolk St. and Delancey St. in the city."

Haliburton was an obvious settling point for the couple as they sought out a new permanent home upon their return to Canada. Born and raised in Ottawa, with ties to Toronto, they were looking for a picturesque community they could call their own. As long-time visitors of the county, it seemed a no-brainer to pitch up in the area.

"We've always rented up here in this



Erika Mozes and Josh Karam were excited to open Haliburton's newest downtown business Delancey Sports on Friday, Dec. 11. The store specializes in selling top-end seasonal sports gear. /MIKE BAKER, Staff

area, and really have always loved Haliburton. There was always something in the back of our mind where we thought, one day, we wanted to get a place up here," Mozes said.

And that's exactly what they did. With the help of Century21 realtor Andrew Hodgson, the pair purchased their dream home right on Ross Lake. Paying homage to their old American abode, they named the property 'The Suffolk'.

As self-described outdoor enthusiasts, with a particular passion for skiing, Mozes and Karam wasted little time updating their equipment. They visited JoAnne Sharpley's Source for Sports back in October, and were surprised by what they saw.

"We park and immediately see there's a big retirement sale on all equipment in the store. We bought some new cross country skis, and as we were buying them we got talking with Cindy-Jo [Nesbitt] and she told us all about what was happening, and how the store was closing" Mozes said.

"Twenty minutes later, on our drive home, Erika decided that we should open a sports store," Karam added.

And thus Delancey Sports was born. Nesbitt has been brought over to serve as director of store operations at Delancey, and two more part-time employees have been hired.

The space itself, located at 160 Highland Street, has been completely renovated, with all work carried out by local contractors. The shelves have been jam packed full with hockey, alpine skiing, Nordic skiing and showshoeing equipment and apparel. Also available is the popular 'hali' brand, launched by Haliburton native Matt Duchene in 2018.

"We made the decisions regarding what to stock based on what the community told us they needed, wanted and expected. Before opening, we were asking literally anybody what they wanted to see in a sports store in Haliburton, so we've really taken that and run with it," Karam said. "Then we took a look ourselves, as outdoor enthusiasts, and said 'what can

you not get in Haliburton', or even 'what can you not get in Ontario'. Yes, you can get Nordic skis. But what if you could get a handmade Nordic ski that comes from Sweden, and was designed by an Olympic athlete, at a very, very amazing price. That's the kind of thing we're going to have here."

In terms of brands, Karam says Delancey will carry a wide range of Blizzard skiing equipment, and will also offer Stark Hockey products for women. While the snow will be sticking around for a while, there are already plans to launch a summer-line of products, with a focus on water sports, golf and rollerblading.

Perhaps most important for some residents – Delancey will be offering skate sharpening on-site. Since Sharpley's closed over a month ago, locals have been forced to head out of town to get their blades tuned up. During their first couple of days of opening, Karam estimated more than a dozen people stopped by to make use of the new machine.

Dozens more have popped their head in to offer a good, old-fashioned Haliburton welcome, something Karam has particularly been appreciative of.

"People coming in and making purchases has been great, but even more than that has been the people stopping in to say welcome, and thanking us for opening this store. That's been pretty wild," Karam said. "Lots of people seem to be really happy that we're here."

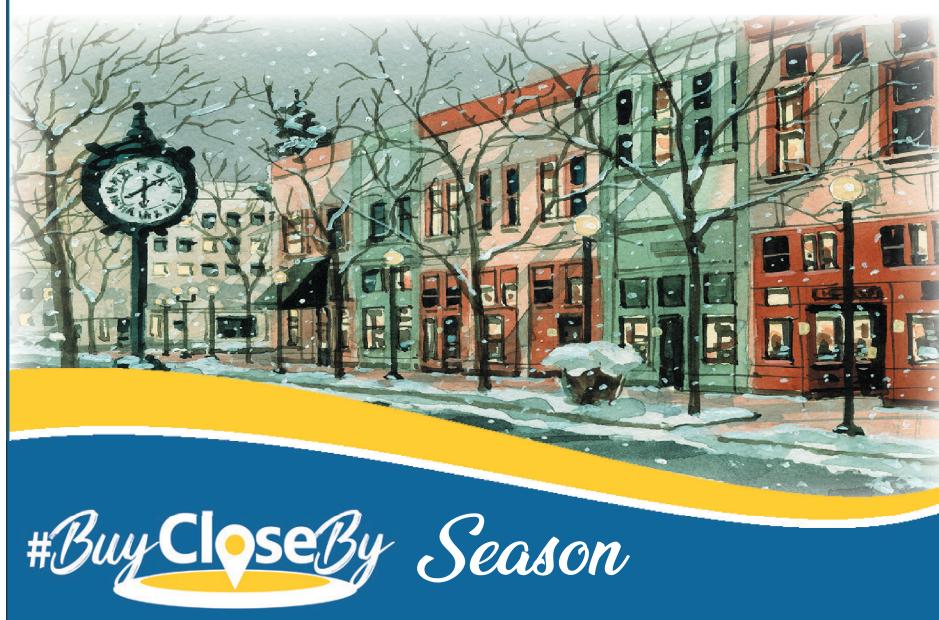
Delancey Sports will be open seven days a week, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. To enquire about any particular product, email [info@delanceysports.com](mailto:info@delanceysports.com), or call 705-455-9938.

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*Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir*

## Make the most of your Christmas

**B**AH HUMBUG. While Christmas hasn't been completely cancelled, and the early speculation that the Ontario government would be enacting a province-wide lockdown on the eve of the biggest and best holiday of the year turned out to be wide of the mark, the overwhelming feeling of dread and 'oh no, not again'-ness is certain to have knocked the proverbial festive stuffing out of a lot of people.

Take me for example. Generally, I'm a very Christmasy guy. I love the holidays. It's such a special time of year that truly does bring out the very best in people. There seems to be some sort of special magic in the air throughout December that helps to put smiles on faces and makes people do nice things.

You think I'm wrong? Look at every single registered charity in the world. I'd bet you a medium double-double that the Christmas period is, by far, the most successful time for the vast majority. People are generous during the festive season, more willing to give. Just take a look at all the Christmas hamper campaigns, toy drives and other fundraisers you've seen or heard about in the local area over the past few weeks. There are too many to count.

While I have made my usual contributions to the causes nearest and dearest to my heart, I can't hide the fact that it really doesn't feel like Christmas this year. Even now, as I sit and write this column, four days removed from the big event, there's a definite feeling of 'meh' in the air. I'm positive it's a me problem, but I'd hazard a guess a lot of other people are harbouring similar feelings.



*mike  
baker*

## Editorial

With that in mind, let's make the most of what we do have this year, and what we can do. Can't see your favourite uncle? That's okay, give him a call. Upset that you won't have the opportunity to tease a sibling? Get on your laptop, phone, iPad or whatever and shoot off a video request. Send smiling pictures to your parents – brownie points if you do it while wearing a homey hand-knitted, made-with-love sweater.

You see, there will be another Christmas. We will be able to celebrate again. We just have to look out for our neighbours, our most vulnerable, even our loved ones right now.

Come to think of it, isn't that really what Christmas is all about?

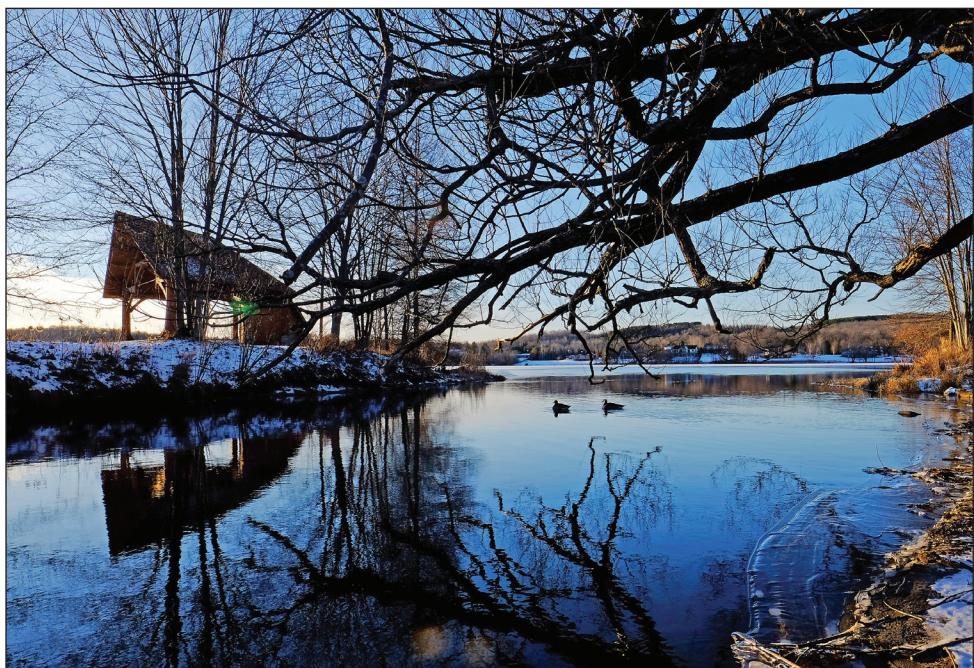
So, when it all boils down to it, it's OK that it doesn't feel like Christmas. We're faced with a decision this year, and although it's a pretty darn disappointing one, it's also the easiest one we've ever had to make – enjoy Christmas as we usually do, or save lives. Thousands of lives.

As bad as some of us may think we've got it right now, believe me there are worst places we could be.

This was a difficult time of year for Jim. While the songs told him it was the most wonderful time of the year, for him it was not. For all his childhood, the holiday season had meant tiptoeing around the house, trying to be invisible. When he was older, Jim could get away. But when he was young he was trapped in the house with his mom and siblings. His father would return at unpredictable hours having spent time and his pay-check at the tavern in town.

Arriving in an ugly mood, he'd curse the world and Jim's mom in particular, throwing whatever came to hand as he stumbled about the hallway and kitchen. Nothing was placed under the family's small tree until after his father got home and fell asleep. Jim's mother didn't want their meager gifts stepped on or broken in one of the man's rages.

Before his arrival, Jim and the others would keep an eye on the window looking for headlights. With a feeling of dread they all knew what was coming. But it wasn't always the same. Some-



Winter reflections and silhouettes

by Darren Lum

## Not for everyone

**D**EATH WAS at the door. She could hear it snarling, scratching to get in. Susie was terrified until she remembered her magic ring. All she had to do was rub it and the monster would disappear like snowflakes on a warm mitten.

Jim stopped the story and looked down at his granddaughter. The little girl's eyes were wide with excitement and anticipation as she waited for what came next. He smiled and continued. In the end, Susie triumphed over all sorts of bad things thanks to her amazing, secret magic ring.

It was a continuing story that Jim had created months ago. Little Marie was a rapt audience and Jim had no shortage of stories. But some true stories he would never share with her.

As Christmas drew nearer Jim found himself thinking more and more of Christmases past. The memories sneaked into his head and rattled around like a stone in a tin can until he was able to shake them out.

This was a difficult time of year for Jim. While the songs told him it was the most wonderful time of the year, for him it was not. For all his childhood, the holiday season had meant tiptoeing around the house, trying to be invisible. When he was older, Jim could get away. But when he was young he was trapped in the house with his mom and siblings. His father would return at unpredictable hours having spent time and his pay-check at the tavern in town.

Arriving in an ugly mood, he'd curse the world and Jim's mom in particular, throwing whatever came to hand as he stumbled about the hallway and kitchen. Nothing was placed under the family's small tree until after his father got home and fell asleep. Jim's mother didn't want their meager gifts stepped on or broken in one of the man's rages.

Before his arrival, Jim and the others would keep an eye on the window looking for headlights. With a feeling of dread they all knew what was coming. But it wasn't always the same. Some-

times his dad would seem in a jolly mood, slurring the words of a Christmas carol as he struggled to get out of his coat. Then it would change. Anything might set the man off and it was the tension of not knowing when that would happen that was especially hard.

Over the years Jim did his best to shake off the negative Christmas energy he carried from his childhood. Sharing the holidays with Marie and the rest of his son's tribe had helped. Nothing like the happy company of people you love and who love you to lift the spirits. They always had a traditional Christmas dinner together, sang songs to Jim's piano accompaniment and watched one or two overly sentimental Christmas movies on Christmas Day.

This year was going to be different. No visiting the city. No big dinner, songs, or movie together. Jim could feel some of those old, unhappy feelings sneaking into him like a cat on the prowl.

Then the phone rang. It was Monika down the road. Jim hadn't seen her from her for a while and she explained she had been laid up with a sore back and not out of the house for over a week. But she was fine now.

She was wondering if Jim felt like joining her for turkey on Christmas day. She said she knew he never went anywhere – here she laughed as it was true – so she thought they were the ideal pair to spend the time together. Like Jim, she would be missing her sisters and daughter this year. Monika also admitted she needed some help getting rid of a few cookies and tarts she had made the day before. It just didn't feel like a real Christmas, she told Jim, unless she did at least a little baking. Would he do her the favour of helping her eat them up? She really didn't need to put on any more pounds.

Now Jim had something to look forward to. It might not be the most wonderful time of the year for him but it was certainly looking better. He wondered if she had made any shortbread.

*Down*



*sharon  
lynch*

## our road

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# points of view

## Pronouncements

I'M NOT SAYING that Jenn and I live a thrilling life, but just the other day this happened. She woke me from a perfectly good nap to tell me that in the Middle Ages the word "apron" was actually "napron."

The excitement in her voice was palpable.

Jenn went on to explain that the word napron evolved into apron, basically due to a misunderstanding.

Apparently, people used to say things like "I need to put on a napron." Understandably, others heard it as "Sorry about your luck." But there were also a few who heard "I need to put on an apron."

And they were people who actually inserted these garments into everyday conversation. So, as a result, everyone eventually started calling them aprons.

It seemed too good to be true. But then I realized this might be something that hinted at a larger problem.

"Where did you learn this vital knowledge?" I asked.

Jenn looked at me uneasily, and then told me something that shocked me to the core. She had learned it on the Merriam-Webster Dictionary 'Words Matter' Podcast.

"Oh, Jenn," I said, as I rushed over to give her a long, sympathetic hug.

Call me blind, but up to this point, I thought Jenn knew how to use the internet.

But here she was surfing for educational content.

Suddenly it all made sense. The closed office door, the internet searches she never showed me, the cleared browser histories, the embarrassed look on her face and the quick closing of the computer screen when I walked in her office - she had an online education addiction.

Look, I'm as progressive as the next guy. I know there are many ways of viewing the world.

But I also know that all this educational online stuff depicts unrealistic scenarios where everyone is happy, intelligent, open-minded, and yearning to learn new things. And, if the current situation in the U.S. has proved anything, that is not even close to being accurate.

Then and there it occurred to me that I had to help Jenn. So, I sent her a link depicting people slipping on ice.

It wasn't long afterwards that she stepped into my office and asked, "Why did you send me that?"

"I wanted you to see that you can spend your time on the internet in a more productive, socially acceptable manner," I replied.

"Huh?" she replied.

"Look," I said. "You're a grown person and you can do whatever you like. But let me just ask you this: how would you feel if your friends or family knew that you were visiting the 'Words Matter' website?"

She rolled her eyes and said, "What's wrong with that?"

It was as if she was completely unaware of societal norms. So, I took a different approach.

"Frankly, I do not think the misunderstandings that website is telling you about are even possible. It seems highly improbable to me."

"Why would you say that?" she asked.

I explained my theory that for every person who got the word wrong, there would be another person whose only joy in life is correcting other people's mistakes.

"Believe me, I've met thousands of them," I said.

"So, you are saying that because of this crazy, non-evidence-based theory of yours, I should stop looking for websites, podcasts and videos with educational ideas and instead do Google searches for 'The loudest recorded flatulence'?"

"Yes, but I am also saying it would take an exceptionally stupid person to get a commonly used word that wrong," I replied.

She paused at the door, turned back, and said I was a nass. Whatever that is.



## Loon Tales

steve  
galea



## pic of the past

This is a photo taken back in 1972, when the Haliburton Figure Skating Club held a carnival for local residents. Doreen Rae was to teach the gentlemen pictured how to figure skate. Among those featured are Eale Casey (back left), Grant Rae (back, second left), Joe Iles (back, second right), Tim Casey (front, left), Murray Austin (front, second left), Dick Schell (front, third left), Mark Schell (front, third right), and Walter Webb (front, right). / Submitted photo

## letters to the editor

## A 'government knife in the back' to Thomas Chandler Haliburton

### To the Editor:

Before launching into what is sure to be a contentious upcoming official public input stage of the county's shoreline takeover and control by law effort, let's first take a brief look at our most historically relevant and turbulent property history. Here is just the first part of my "Unpromised Land of Haliburton" story, starting in the mid-1800's where it all began.

According to Wikipedia:

"In 1859, the Crown Lands Department in the Province of Canada advertised a massive block of land for sale, comprising initially of just the townships of Dysart, Dudley, Harcourt, Gilford, Harburn, Bruton, Havelock, Eyre, Clyde, and Longford. The purpose was to promote rapid settlement of the newly created townships in the district through private enterprise.

The private company that was formed to acquire and disperse these lands, was chaired by none other than Thomas Chandler Haliburton, then of Nova Scotia and was formed in April 1861."

Then, prior to this county-wide land purchase and sale agreement, it is highly relevant that it took many years of intense and very lengthy - and likely hard fought negotiations - between Chandler Haliburton's private company, and the Government Department of Crown Lands: concerning the selection of townships and the purchase price and all the myriad detailed terms of sale.

The Crown eventually agreed to pay for the master survey of the outlines of the townships, but Haliburton's company had to pay for the detailed survey within the townships and their subdivision into lots for eventual sale to the settlers.

Additional townships were added to expand the geographic footprint of the agreement from surrounding areas in 1874, this coinciding with the railway line opening from Kinmount to Haliburton.

Despite all the government's and Haliburton

Corp "good intentions" guess what? From the outset, the Chandler Haliburton's company had difficulty in re-selling their now sub-divided lands for a variety of reasons. Namely, lack of good roads or even any roads; the rugged nature of the landscape - plus most importantly, the unrecognized emerging future high value of waterfront land- which many of these large land tracts would have included.

Then the final nail in Chandler Haliburton's coffin came when in 1883, Wikipedia reports the Province of Ontario had begun to open up neighbouring townships in Haliburton and Muskoka with offers of free land grants, resulting in settlers becoming even more reluctant to actually have to purchase, when there was now a new free land option.

This was like "a government knife in the back" of our very founder Chandler Haliburton and his Haliburton company.

Thereby totally destroying all he had worked for and all that had been accomplished as per his agreements with the government that sold these local lands to his company in the first place. A total betrayal.

Unable to cope with this new free land competition, the company the government chose to conduct land re-distribution on their behalf in Haliburton, was now forced to dissolve their operations shortly thereafter. All this, as a result of the sudden shift in government policy (look familiar?) by that same government that had set all this up in the first place.

No wonder when someone says "I'm from the government and I am here to help you" - most intelligent people will turn and go the other way!

Thus ending only the first chapter of the land saga - with more local land distribution reveals to be written about and to follow soon.

David Hopkins Howe  
Minden Hills

# Province launches small business grant to help with COVID-19 closures

from page 1

become overwhelmed. He noted many hospitals were on the verge of, once again, cancelling elective surgical procedures.

While the federal government has come to an agreement that will see at least one COVID-19 vaccine distributed across the country, Ford notes, due to a limited supply, it will be months before mass immunization can be achieved.

Despite investing an additional \$2.5 billion in the health care system this year, Elliott stated hospitals were still short on beds as the number of hospitalizations rises.

Much of the same measures introduced during the previous lockdown in March will be enacted again. Individuals are encouraged to stay at home where possible, leaving only to go to work, pick up groceries and prescriptions, or to attend a medical appointment. Essential businesses such as grocery stores and pharmacies will remain open, with capacity limits in place, while other retailers will be open for curbside pickup and deliveries only.

To assist small businesses through this latest lockdown, Ford says the provincial government is launching a new Ontario small business support grant. The program will provide between \$10,000 and \$20,000 to eligible small businesses to "help them through this challenging time".

Ontario's youth will also be impacted by the lockdown. Ford revealed that school closures over the winter break would be extended, "out of an abundance of caution". Elementary and middle schools, covering kindergarten to Grade 8, will remain closed until Jan. 11. High schools will remain closed until Jan. 25.

Sinead Fegan, Trillium Lakelands District School Board spokesperson, informed media on Monday that the local board would be offering online learning to all students beginning Jan. 4.

"All students have access to an online classroom using one of the following platforms: Google Classroom, See-saw or Brightspace. The school day schedule will continue to be followed and curriculum will be delivered via

a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning instruction," an update on the TLDSB website reads.

"Classroom teachers will reach out directly to families to ensure your child is ready for online learning on Jan. 4. If you have any questions, or if your child requires access to a device to support their learning, please contact your child's school directly on Jan. 4," it continues.

Wes Hahn, TLDSB director of education, previously sent a letter home to families on Dec 17 noting the local board was putting plans in place to prepare for an extension of the winter break.

In a message to regions currently sitting in the green and yellow zone of Ontario's COVID-19 framework, Ford said the blanket lockdown was being done to lower the risk of inter-provincial travel from high-risk to low-risk zones and contain further spread of the virus.

"We've seen that people are moving from region to region and bringing COVID-19 with them. Health officials are telling us that province-wide action is needed if we're going to break these trends," Ford said. "Make no mistake, thousands of lives are at stake right now. If we fail to take action now, the consequences could be catastrophic... Every day we learn more about this terrible virus, and the hard truth is it's not going anywhere until we're able to vaccinate more Ontarians."

He concluded, "I've said it before and I'll say it again, tough times don't last but tough people do. I've seen how resilient and strong we are as a people during this first wave, and the second. The vaccines are on their way. There is a light at the end of the tunnel, and I'm asking everyone to stay strong a little longer. Together we will get through this."

## Capturing the moment

The Haliburton Highlands Camera Club held a pictorial competition for local photography enthusiasts in November. As a part of the contest, members could submit any image taken in the past five years for consideration. First place in the advanced category went to Fred Pyziak, for his crisp 'Ice Race' shot.



The first-placed intermediate picture showcases 'Winter Fun', by Julie Jones.



The first-placed image in the novice category went to Lorry Brandon for her 'Golden Crab' – a nice reminder of summer.



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The Health Unit office will be closed for the holiday season on:

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Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season from the staff of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

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# Creative form of winter golfing comes to Haliburton

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Getting to golf this winter is as easy as pressing a few keys said golf pro Andy MacMillan, owner of the Haliburton Golf Centre.

Working out of the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre in Haliburton, the centre is offering a virtual experience using the latest technology where golfers can play a round of 18 or nine at 95 well-known courses from around the world, which include Florida's Copper Head Golf Course or Alberta's Banff Springs Golf Course.

Many of the premiere golf courses demand premiere prices, but being unable to travel too far MacMillan said golfers can experience the next closest thing through his simulator.

"Some of these golf courses cost \$200 and \$500 to play. So, you come in here you play for \$45 bucks you just saved yourself a whole bunch of money," he said.

MacMillan said it will typically take a person an hour to play a round of 18. However, with two golfers, it will take two hours and four people will take four hours. Using the simulator for a golf game is \$45 per hour and is \$25 per hour or \$15 per hour for the driving range format.

Golfers bring their own clubs or can rent clubs on site and play, taking swings with the relevant clubs for holes, like in real life, from a designated spot in front of a 14' x 9' screen, which receives a projection of a computer generated image, providing contours and hazards.



Andy MacMillan, owner of the Haliburton Golf Centre welcomes golfers to golf this winter indoors, using his simulator setup in what was the Highlanders Bar at the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre where you can golf at any of the 95 courses around the world. MacMillan, who is in the process of rebranding his Haliburton Driving Range business, said he is also offering lessons and his indoor setup also includes a separate practice area set up in the Kinmount Room. With the provincial lockdown, the Haliburton Golf Centre will operate until Wednesday and close. /DARREN LUM Staff

This autumn MacMillan, who is in the process of rebranding his Haliburton Driving Range business, made a sizable investment towards this indoor golfing setup with the purchase of equipment (SkyTrak launch monitor and the E6 software) to enable golfers to play and

develop their skills during the winter.

MacMillan didn't specify the full investment he made, but he points to three pieces of equipment related to the simulator setup costing thousands of dollars. This isn't a setup the average golfer can afford to bring home.

Using the high-tech simulator, which is located in what was the Highlanders Bar at the Pinestone, allows for a wealth of data to be recorded from each shot.

This includes documenting spin rate, launch angle, shot distance and shot history. This isn't just to allow golfers to brag, but can help with skill development, as it can be applied during lessons to provide comprehensive feedback for MacMillan while teaching or for fittings, which can be sent to a golfer after the lesson.

"I can fit clubs. Your clubs you currently have? I can make tweaks with them for what you need. I can also teach basically from seeing those numbers. I can see exactly what you're doing in your golf swing ... but I can also have the numbers to back it up. So, I can use all that data and fine tune your golf game," he said.

As an independent operator, MacMillan said it took him close to two weeks to install and erect all the equipment for his set up, which also includes transforming the Kinmount room into an indoor practice area, complete with areas to putt and drive and chip, where players can warm up for the simulator or receive instruction. Lessons can be held in either the practice area or with the simulator.

In golf, repetition is key and indoor practice will help to speed up a players' development because the setting provides less distractions for golfers to focus on their swing.

The idea for all of these plans to take golfing indoors was because of COVID-19, he said.

"I was the ice maker at the Minden Curling Club. They shut down," he said. He said the process to get this going

see NEW page 10



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happiness, and peace  
during the holiday  
season and through  
the coming year.



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# New venture fulfills golfers' desire to hit the links this winter

from page 9

was started in July. The order for the equipment was made in September.

"My goal is I want people to do things over the winter. It's not fun to sit around, right? So I want people to be active, come out and play some golf, safely. We're going to make sure that everyone is safe," he said.

As a father of a three-month-old baby, MacMillan said, he has a vested interest in safety for himself and his patrons. COVID-19 protocols are in place such as mask wearing and sanitizing of high touch areas. Also, he said he'll keep groups limited to four golfers at a time.

Since he started posting to his social media platforms, he said, there were 8,000 likes on one post.

MacMillan said this arrangement is possible from a partnership with the Pinestone.

"It's great for the hotel too, right? I love Pinestone. I want Pinestone to be here ... I love the golf course. People here are awesome," he said.

The resort's general manager John Teljeur said the Pinestone had considered offering a similar service, but didn't see it as financially viable. Last year, he said, when Andy approached the Pinestone it was an easy decision to partner.

"Well, how do we make this happen? To me, it was a no brainer. We have the space in the winter time and it doesn't take a lot of room and it's a nice complement to the resort," he said.

He said with a lot of the resort's golf club members staying here this winter there is going to be a demand for the centre's services. He adds this won't be a draw for guests only, but also for the local community.

Teljeur said in the past the resort operated like a hotel with basic amenities, but this offering like others recently, such as Nordic skiing and snowshoeing, is consistent with a new approach to draw more people.

"These are the kinds of things that any time we can do, whether it's entertainment or adding leisure features to the resort that adds to the overall attractiveness of the resort, you have to look at that. As a resort, we

have to make ourselves more valuable to people coming in because they do have choices. They can go to a lot of different places," he said.

He likened it to how having the swimming pool is a draw even for people who may not use it.

A day before the official opening on Thursday, Dec. 17 last week, golfer Rob Chapman was preparing to get a few swings in to help with MacMillan's setup by playing the Copperhead Golf Course at the Innisbruck Golf Resort in Florida.

"I used to be an avid skier and snowmobiler and that's all gone now so our way of life has changed ... This is huge to be able to get away for a couple of hours," he said.

Chapman said this will be his first year of retirement here in Haliburton and is looking forward to the virtual opportunity to visit courses he has visited in person. Typically, he would go south to Florida for six months during the winter. However, with COVID-19 he's staying at his home in Haliburton.

MacMillan acknowledges there is a bit of a learning curve to golfing with the simulator. From the feedback he received from his testers, he likens it to anything new such as the first time you might play a video game. It often just takes half a round to make all the adjustments.

Membership packages will be available, starting at \$200 for two months, which include a 10 per cent discount for simulator time and lessons. There will be a 20 per cent discount on simulator and lesson rates for members, who opt for the full season membership from December to April. Golfers 13 and under are eligible for \$50 discount on memberships. Golf clubs rentals are available.

Book your tee time or lesson time from Tuesday to Sunday on the centre's website ([haliburtondrivingrange.com](http://haliburtondrivingrange.com)) or call (705) 457-2199. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday and Sunday and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. the rest of the week.

As far as the future goes, he plans to do more than just provide virtual golf experiences.

He hopes to host parties where people can use the

“

*My goal is I want people to do things over the winter. It's not fun to sit around, right? So I want people to be active, come out and play some golf, safely.*

— Andy MacMillan, owner

large screen that displays the projection to watch sporting events such as the World Junior Hockey Championships or wedding parties could use it for presentations.

He also said there is the potential for year-round use related to people staying at the hotel, who want to get a round of golf in at night after they have worked during the daylight hours.

MacMillan said he's also offering a league play option when players can compete for prizes with top scores and have a week to complete their round of nine to tally their score.

With Pinestone's Stone 21 beside the space where the simulator is, food from a menu designed by chef Dave Adams is available and is worth trying, MacMillan said.

"When you're in here, you can have a drink. You can order food from Stone 21. So basically it's like [golfing outside except] you're indoors and you're warm and you get to keep swinging over the winter," he said.

*May your holidays be*  
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*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*

# Tis the season of Light, don'tcha know

Why, if it isn't the season of Light, don'tcha know. Oh yes, that time of year when we're reminded to switch on, not only those lovely ornamental lights some of us string all around our evergreens and porch railings...on our Christmas trees and pooches' collars...but the light that we can actually choose to be and feel and send to our friends and the world at large. What's ol' Maybelle going on about?

Well, dear reader, as I sit here at my window in my Lake Whaddaya-thinkImean cottage, looking out at a Bing Crosby winter wonderland, I'm reminded just how lucky I am to be living in this beautiful natural environment with my bubble of dear friends nearby and my pet bear, Bogart, in the next room learning French on his computer, don'tcha know.

I'm thinking about the candles that are lit on a Chanukah menorah for eight days in an attempt to connect to the Light and send it out to loved ones and to the world.

And, I'm thinking about how easy it is for us to get in a big fat knot about the elephant in the room (COVID), stuck in a feeling of dark despair... when we really do have a choice to choose something that is actually good for our body, mind, and soul – the Light.

Ol' Maybelle thinks of it as a warm,

Maybelle's



## Fireside stories

loving chicken soup kinda elixir that lifts our spirits and makes us feel good all over. Puts things into perspective. Gets us to realizing just how lucky we are right here where we are right now at this moment in time.

Right after lunch, Bogart and I are going to meet up with Vilma Yuccch and her sweetheart, Officer Penelope McBottom for a sweet hike at Barnum Creek Nature Reserve in Haliburton, don'tcha know. Being there with the winding trails and rushing water...getting the ol' heart pumping and breathing in fresh air and hearing the sounds of nature...oh! just thinking about it makes me light up inside.

Now, I know not all of you can do a hike or even a long walk for that matter. So, connecting to your brighter place may find you baking, or writing letters, drawing, painting, carving, knitting, making or listening to music. Whatever it may be, however turning on the Light works for you...ol' Maybelle wishes you this one thing, straight from my hearth. Dear Reader, this holiday season -- may the light in your house...be you!

Wishing you a safe and joyful Christmas from ol' Maybelle and all my friends at Lake Whaddaya-thinkImean!

*Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. Jerelyn's books, "Vesie Flamingo Outshining the Moon," and "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You" are available at amazon.com.*

## Best wishes for a happy and safe Christmas season

community news

### west guilford

*Eleanor Cooper*  
754-2278

It's a quieter Christmas for many of us, what with COVID-19 restrictions in place. Smaller gatherings mean less travelling and few people moving about, which means less contact amongst friends who would usually be together. That in turn means less chance of spreading the virus so we comply. Do our part, wear the mask and use the phone much more.

How I miss the people coming in though! Christmas cake and shortbread find their way into friends' homes somehow. Gifts have been left in my doorstep. Baking has been done for me. For all this I am truly grateful. Mail keeps coming, too, mostly in the form of cards, but some packages too.

Decorations also lift the spirits. Once the tree is in place a sense of magic begins; something in the stillness, the beauty reaches into the hearts of homes where there's a tree, in my case, a ceramic, with tiny lights rather than the tall real tree cut from the bush. That one took longer to decorate and many of the

ornaments have been gifts in themselves.

A Christmas centrepiece complete with candle has been presented, an amaryllis and some cut flowers, deep red on tall stems which looks so good in the tall slender vase.

Am I ready for Christmas? Well, not quite. Presents are still being wrapped and a package has yet to be sent to Duncan on the island. That may have to be an after Christmas surprise. It draws out the celebration somewhat to have things occur after the date.

I'm playing over some carols and Christmas songs. Someone who plays violin may come in (fully masked of course) who wants to enjoy the season in the music.

Thanks to Sue Tiffin for the excellent article on Carol Stamp. She's given such an impetus to community life over her work on the Centre's board. As noted in the article, she made a lot of things happen that benefited many of us. Such a loss not to have the Snowshuffle.

Wishes for good recovery to Ernie Cooper who suffered part amputation of his right leg and is in Peterborough Hospital.

Best wishes to all for a safe and happy Christmas season, and many blessings for better health after the pandemic in the New Year.



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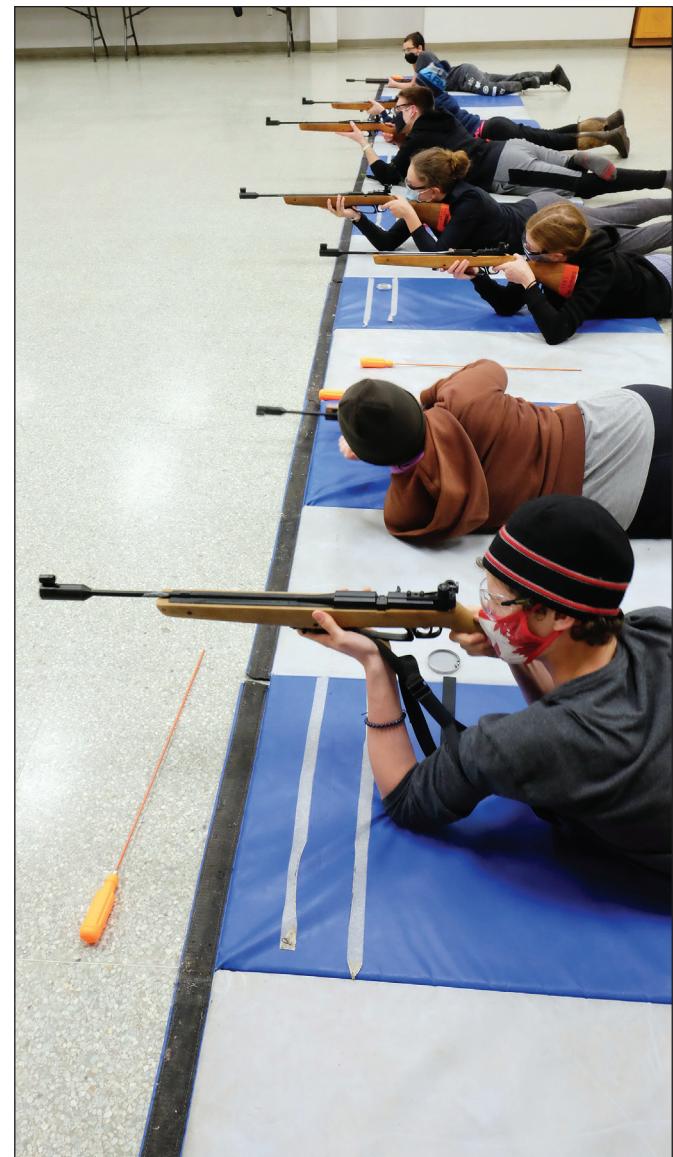
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## Targeting fun and fellowship

Anabelle Craig takes aim during marksmanship practice on Tuesday, Dec. 15 at the Haliburton Legion. Open to youth from 12 to 18 looking for fun and physical experiences, the 1129 Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps -Haliburton offers physical activity, practical skills, social interactions and empowerment every Tuesday during the school year from 6:30 to 8:45. For more information and to join the cadets for free, contact the corps by email ([haliburtonarmycadets@gmail.com](mailto:haliburtonarmycadets@gmail.com)) or text the administration officer at (705) 457-8002. Messages will be returned on Tuesday evenings./DARREN LUM Staff



Lieutenant Greg Powell walks behind cadets as they take aim with their air rifles. In-person sessions have been suspended for much of January. Online sessions are available. Contact Cadets for more information.



Cadets shoot from the prone position during marksmanship practice.

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### NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

- DATE: Wednesday, January 13th 2021
- TIME: 11:00 am.
- LOCATION: The Committee of Adjustment will be held as an electronic meeting only. The meeting will be recorded through the conferencing application and live streamed to YouTube.

#### APPLICATIONS:

##### 1. D13-MV-2020-015- Sprostranov

- The following variance is requested to construct a single family dwelling on a lot in the Urban Residential Type 1 (R1) zone:
  - a) A decrease to the provisions of Section 5.2 to permit a lot in the Urban Residential Type 1 (R1) zone to have a minimum rear lot line setback of 4.5 metres (15 feet) as opposed to the required minimum of 7.5 metres (24.6 feet).
- Location: Lot 19, Concession 8, Lot 14, Plan 602 in the geographic Township of Dysart, in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton (Keefer Street).

##### 2. D13-2020-014- Mendoza

- The following variances are requested to reconstruct and expand a legal non complying main dwelling on a lot in a WR4L zone:
  - a) A variance to the provisions of section 3.19(a)(v) to permit an increase to the structure height of 5.5 metres (18 feet) for a main dwelling within 10 metres of the high water mark for a total structure height of 9.22 metres (30.24 feet), as opposed to the legal non-complying structure height of 3.7 metres (12.13 feet).
  - b) A variance to provisions for Section 3.19(a)(v) to permit an increase to the area of encroachment of 17.11 square metres (184.17 square feet) for a main dwelling within 10 metres of the high water mark for a total area of 39 square metres (420.8 square feet), as opposed to the Legal non-complying area of 21.89 square metres (235.65 square feet).
  - c) A decrease to provisions of Section 5.2 to permit a dwelling to have a minimum interior side lot line of 2.9 metres (9.5 feet) as opposed to the required minimum of 4.5 metres (14.76 feet).
  - d) An increase to provisions of Section 5.2 to permit a lot within a WR4L zone to have a dwelling unit area of 25%, as opposed to the permitted 17%.
- Location: Part Lot 27, Concession 4, Parts 6 to 10, RP19R6948 in the geographic Township of Dysart, in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton (1038 Pike Lane- Haas Lake).

##### 3. D13-MV-2019-023- Tovey

- The following variances are requested to expand a legal non-complying accessory structure on a lot in a Waterfront Residential Type 4 (WR4) zone:
  - a) A variance to provisions of section 3.19(a)(vi) to permit the area of encroachment of a legal non-complying accessory structure within a minimum setback area to be increased by 25 square metres (269 square feet).
  - b) An increase to the provisions of Section 3.19(a)(vii) to permit the gross floor area of an accessory structure to be increased by 25 metres (269 square feet).
- Location: Part Lot 12 and 13, Concession 4, Lot 37, Plan 350, Parts 1 to 4, and 6, RP 19R-10071 in the geographic Township of Harburn, in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton (1169 Sullivan Drive-Haliburton Lake).

Council passed By-law 2020-69 to amends the Committee of Adjustment of the Municipality of Dysart et al's Procedural By-law to permit electronic participation in meetings. **There will not be an in-person meeting: this meeting will be conducted in an electronic format only.**

For more information about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Secretary-Treasurer at [jiles@dysarteral.ca](mailto:jiles@dysarteral.ca).

**ANY PERSON** is entitled to attend the hearing to express his/her views about these applications or may be represented by an agent for that purpose. If you do not attend the hearing the Committee may proceed in your absence and you will not be entitled to any further notice of the proceedings. The Committee will accept oral and written submissions. **A copy of the decision will be sent to the applicant, the agent and to each person who has filed with the Secretary Treasurer a written request for notice of the decision.**

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** including specific information about the zone provisions affected by each application, and electronic meeting process is available from the Planning and Land Information Department at the Municipal Office by appointment only (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Jeff Iles  
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment

# Red Hawks alum joins Tigers

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

When former Red Hawks volleyball standout Natalya Gimon made the Dalhousie Tigers volleyball team earlier this year it was a dream come true.

The second-year health promotion student said it felt a little surreal the first time she took to the court for practice at the Tigers' home venue, the Dalplex.

"I had come and watched games on this court last year when I wasn't on the team and I watched these girls play ... so finally going from the stands to on the court was an amazing feeling. These girls, who I had watched and seen play, I was now playing with," she said.

This journey for the second-year student had its emotional challenges before head coach Rick Scott told her in September, she made this year's team.

A year before, Natalya missed the cut in the autumn, failing to make the Tigers roster.

"I was heartbroken for sure," she said. "It was something I always wanted to do and not being able to do that was for sure very sad for me, but a coach's job is to make the best team that they can so if that didn't include me last year that's at no cost of the coach for sure. I'm just grateful I could come back and that he saw I would be a valuable asset to the team this year."

Months passed by before she thought of another attempt.

She said it wasn't until Christmas last year when she came home to Haliburton for the holidays when her parents were instrumental in influencing her to try out for the team again.

They told her if she didn't make it that the worse-case scenario was that she might not play again.

"A big thing was that they didn't want me to look back and regret I hadn't tried and hadn't done anything," she said.

Part of her preparation for her comeback included time with the university's club volleyball team. She played from January until March, when the pandemic came to Canada, cutting the season short. Her club coach was Alex Barrett, who she credits for pushing her to be better, knowing her aspirations to make the university team.

The difference between her first and her second attempt was she was more prepared, she said, and felt more confident.

"Volleyball is an extremely mental game and so coming in as a first year and not knowing anybody, not knowing anything definitely shook me up for tryouts. I don't think that's the reason that I didn't make it, but it definitely played a part so he said, 'You came back really strong and in shape and that plays a big role in my decision.'"

Natalya said she took on a very thorough off-season preparation, which included weight training and cardiovascular training. With COVID-19 protocols in place in the spring and summer, she only played volleyball with her father and informally at the beach.

Playing collegiate volleyball is a family tradition that she continues.

Both of her parents played volleyball at the collegiate level, which was one of the factors to stay motivated during the year in the lead up to trying out again.

"I kind of just wanted to be able to follow in their footsteps in a way," she said.

She joins her mother, Andrea Borysiuk, who spent five years from 1985 to 1989 playing for the Tigers as an outside hitter.

Another thing her mother got to share with Natalya was the happy moment, following the positive meeting with the head coach, who told her she made the team.

"It was an anxious one-hour wait until



Former Red Hawks volleyball player Natalya Gimon earned a spot on the Dalhousie Tigers volleyball team. The first-year player is listed as a libero on the roster. Photo courtesy of Dalhousie University, Nick Pearce.

the meeting. I drove her to the meeting and obviously waited in the car. She came around the corner towards the car with the biggest smile on her face. I jumped out of the car and we hugged right in the middle of the street," she wrote in an email.

Natalya acknowledged a few tears of joy were shed at that moment.

"Yeah, we both definitely got a little teary," she said.

Natalya's mother was able to be there for the special memory as she drove her daughter to Halifax from Haliburton.

The fateful meeting came after a couple days of training, the four day tryout, and the requisite 14-day quarantine.

Andrea added she was incredibly happy and overwhelmed for her daughter.

"She has shown great resilience and perseverance to meet a goal. The Dal varsity volleyball program is top notch in the country. It's a big accomplishment for Natalya and her hard work and determination paid off," she wrote.

Natalya's father and her past coach, Dan played one year at Guelph University and then finished out his collegiate career at Durham College. He coached his daughter at the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School and was also the assistant at her club team while in high school.

"As a coach it's always fantastic to see any of your players move on to the next level. It means that the coaching staff did their job and the athlete took in and implemented what was taught," he wrote in an email. "As a parent, I'm ecstatic and proud to see Natalya make the Tigers roster. She was disappointed that she didn't make it last year, but she did make it to the final cuts of a team that was ranked amongst the top three in Canada for most of the season. So we were extremely proud of her even then. She has worked very hard to reach the goals that she set for herself so I'm really happy for her in achieving those goals."

There are a lot of positives related to being part of the Tigers team during a pandemic her mother said. She believes it provides structure, physical activity, aiding in mental well-being and helps with academics. Without any teams to play this season, Natalya's parents are disappointed they won't see their daughter play.

"But we are happy Natalya is thriving both academically and athletically at Dal. We are grateful she is part of an amazing program headed by Rick Scott," her mother wrote.

Joining the team has meant an adjustment for the 5'8" player, who is among the shortest on the team.

see page 15





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Haliburton Echo

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We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

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**Point in Time**  
 Centre for Children, Youth and Parents

Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub

**youth wellness hubs**  
 ONTARIO  
**HALIBURTON COUNTY**

**Nurse Practitioner**  
 Full time: 35 hours/week

This position will be one of 5 key positions that together with multiple external service providers, come together to provide flexible, responsive and integrated services for youth aged 12-25 in Haliburton County. The hub focuses on ensuring supports and services are responsive to youth mental health and substance use needs while also integrating primary care, sexual health, employment, housing and other instrumental supports (including food security, clothing, laundry, and toiletry needs). The hub provides low barrier access and in addition to services above also focuses on creating and responding to program ideas and building positive connection between youth. The Nurse Practitioner will work with multiple service providers as a team player in an integrated model and work with youth as partners in decision making in co-creating programs and services

The Nurse Practitioner functions in an expanded role demonstrating a high level of autonomy and is responsible for: conducting client assessments; diagnosing; ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests; prescribing pharmaceuticals and performing specific procedures within the legislated scope of practice. Working in collaboration with the inter-professional team, the NP will ensure a timely response to a client's changing health status and needs and provide direct patient care focusing on health promotion. Evening and some weekend work will be required as well as a valid driver's license and police record check.

**Assets for this position**

- Good initiative and interest in program development as it is a role that requires some growth in order to improve access and utilization of the resources.
- Experience working with LGBTQ2 populations and Indigenous populations
- Experience in sexual health and trans positive care
- Primary care experience
- French language
- Experience in mental health and substance use with a focus on harm reduction.
- Knowledge of Haliburton County community

The Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub is committed to employment equity, inclusion, and diversity, and welcomes applications from Indigenous persons, persons who are visible minorities, persons with disabilities, and persons of any sexual or gender orientation.

Please send resume by Jan. 8th, 2020 to:

Mary Sisson  
 Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub Manager  
 Point in Time, Centre For Children, Youth and Parents  
 P.O. Box 1306, 69 Eastern Ave., Haliburton ON. K0M 1S0  
[marys@pointintime.ca](mailto:marys@pointintime.ca)



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- Marketing and Communications
- Working with Not-for-Profit Organizations and Board of Directors
- Knowledge of Haliburton County an asset

Please visit [www.haliburtoncdc.ca](http://www.haliburtoncdc.ca) for full job description.  
 Submit a covering letter and resume by **December 31, 2020** to:

Canada

[ptallman@haliburtoncdc.ca](mailto:ptallman@haliburtoncdc.ca)

We thank all applicants for applying, however only those chosen for an interview will be contacted.

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Haliburton Echo

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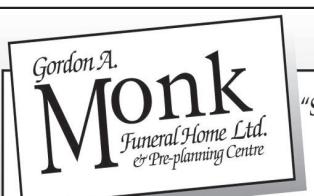
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## 640 IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts go wandering,  
 When daylight fades.  
 To the land of long ago.  
 And memory paints the scenes of old,  
 In the gold of the twilight glow.  
 We seem to see in the soft dim light,  
 The faces we loved the best,  
 And think of them when the sun's last ray,  
 Goes down in the far off west.

*Remember Them With Us*  
**The Times**  
 705-286-1288

## 640 IN MEMORIAM

**In Loving memory of**  
**Robert**  
**"Bob" Hayward**  
 (January 4, 2009)

**Goodbyes are not forever.**  
**Goodbyes are not the end.**  
**They simply mean**  
 we miss you.  
 Until we meet again."

**Love Betty  
 & Family**

Haliburton Echo

# Classifieds

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640 IN MEMORIAM

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## In Memory of Angus "Gus" MacInnes

May 31, 1934 ~ December 17, 2017

*It's hard to believe three years  
 have passed since you left us.*

*Our hearts still ache in sadness  
 And secret tears still fall  
 What it meant to lose you  
 No one will ever know  
 We will miss you always  
 And Love you forever*

Loved and missed by your wife  
 Carole, Duane & Families



In memory of  
 Steven Gregory Kurtz  
 RNC, BFA

1967 ~ 2014

We who love you, sadly miss you.  
 As it dawns another year,  
 In our lonely hours of thinking,  
 Thoughts of you are ever near.  
 "Forever Missed"

Patrick, Collin, Dan, Lisa,  
 Valerie, Miles, Gail, Gordon

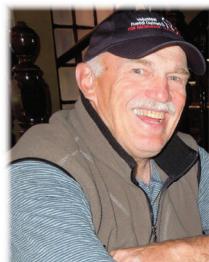


650 OBITUARIES

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### In Loving Memory of Ronald Allan Reid

Died suddenly at home from a heart attack on December 10, 2020. Ron is survived by his children, Simon (Claire), Jody (Dan), Matt (Lisa), grandchildren, Avery, River, Quinn, Logan, Isaac, Kaden, Brady, and Juno, as well as his sister, Catherine Hodges and his partner, Joan Pipher. He was predeceased by wife, Toos, and sister, Roxanne Shuter.

Ron had incredible energy and approached each day with a positive attitude and willingness to help others. He was a man of great faith and would leave friends and strangers alike with a heartfelt 'God Bless!'.

He was born in Picton, Ontario and was raised in "the county" which held a special place in his heart. Ron loved to go back to Prince Edward County to visit, camp, and explore.

Ron attended Trent University from 1966-1970. At Trent, he met many great friends through studying biology and playing rugger. This is where he met Toos, the love of his life and wife of 40 years. They were an incredible pair together and left their mark on so many people from so many walks of life.

In the spring of '76, Ron got a temporary position at the Dorset research centre as a freshwater lakes biologist. A nine month contract became a lifetime in the community.

He was never one to sit still. He always had a list and a project, and he always had a willing partner in Toos. To find him in his woods, you needed only to follow the sound of the chainsaw or wood splitter. He often wouldn't slow down until he was bleeding, sometimes a little, sometimes a lot! When he took on a new hobby he didn't do it halfway, whether it was raising cows and rabbits, cultivating garlic and gardens, staying active by rugger and baseball in his younger years and cycling and golf in the later years, giving back through H.A.V.E. and the Christmas Basket program, and of course taking over every bush he could to make maple syrup.

Ron was always up for an adventure, usually by car, canoe, or 4-wheeler. He was never hesitant to pick up the phone, drop in on a friend, or drive 1000 km to watch a game. He left an impression on everyone he came into contact with and always had a huge smile and bigger heart. He was never shy to show off his moves on the dance floor.

A couple of years ago, his sister, Cathy, introduced him to her friend, Joan, and he found in her a companion for his many adventures. They spent their time traveling between "the farm", "the cottage" and Florida, meeting up with friends and family along the way.

We know that Ron was loved by so many. Due to the current pandemic, we will host a virtual visitation on Wednesday December 16th from 2-3 and 6-7. Please email the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd. at info@gordonmonkfuneralhome.com to receive a scheduled virtual time slot with the Reid family.

A Private Memorial Mass will be held at Our Lady of Fatima Church, 7 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden, ON on Thursday, December 17th at 11:00 am. The service will be available virtually and details to attend will be available at [www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com](http://www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com)

A larger celebration of life will be held in Ron's memory when we are on the other side of this pandemic.

*In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either H.A.V.E. ([helpavillageeffort.org](http://helpavillageeffort.org)). <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/8133>  
 Interac e-transfers sent to have@helpavillageeffort.org.  
 Please use the password: HAVE*



[www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com](http://www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com)

### Alsop, Lawrence Hubert

Passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 17, 2020 at Lakeridge Health Oshawa Hospital at the age 85.

Loving husband to Muriel (nee: Sheehey) for 60 years. Dear father of Lynn (Iain Webster), Robert and the late Richard. Devoted grandfather to Carter (Claire) and Samuel. Predeceased by his sister Adeline Hunter. Will be remembered by his dearly loved nieces Marlene Moon and Linda Mullen. A private cremation to take place. Lawrence will be interred in his final resting place in Burnt River, Ontario at a later date.

### Gartshore, Barbara Ann (nee Boice)

It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of Barb at Haliburton Hospital on Wednesday December 9th, 2020 at the age of 76. Beloved wife of Bev (predeceased by 2 months) for over 57 devoted years. Adored mother of Debbie (Jim) and Tim (Karen). Cherished Annin of Trevor and Samantha. Barb will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all her family and close friends.

Her laughter, kindness and love of life brought happiness to many. She was all about family and making memories for which we are all thankful to have to hold onto.

In keeping with Barb's wishes cremation has taken place. If desired memorial donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated. We would like to thank Dr. N. Thomas and all those at the Haliburton Hospital for taking such good care of Mom and Dad.





A Christmas Classic.

Happy holidays from all of us at Hockley!

**Hockley**  
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## Ottawa experience

Local high school student gets parliamentary treatment

5



## Tigers tamed

Red Hawks win hockey home-opener hands down

23

## A holiday hallmark

Santa Claus was in his usual high spirits, waving to the crowd of children and adults who lined the streets for the Santa Claus Parade in Haliburton on Friday night, Nov. 26. See more photos on page 4. Darren Lum Echo Staff

Haliburton Highlands Health Services is looking at the creation of a palliative care, hospice-type space at its Haliburton Village facility.

HHHS CEO Paul Rosebush told members of the HHHS board at its Nov. 25 meeting that increased palliative care space was something the county would need as its aging population continues to get older.

Rosebush said that at the Haliburton facility there is space behind the maternity area and lounge to build a small addition allowing for a two-bed palliative environment, with a kitchen, a family waiting room and a separate entrance to the outdoors.

The addition could be built off an existing patient room, the entrance to which would be outfitted with doors for increased privacy.

"Two beds I think is reasonable . . . and appropriate for our community," Rosebush said, adding that "it's not something that can happen overnight."

He said a feasibility study for such a project would be required to see how much funding is available.

The Central East Local Health Integration Network, of which Haliburton County is part, does receive provincial monies to go towards palliative care, although these funds are rarely taken advantage of.

"In a small, rural community, it is almost impossible to generate a stand-alone, hospice facility," Rosebush said, explaining that such a facility would not be used frequently enough to make paying staff and operational costs worth-

see PALLIATIVE page 3



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Experience the freedom of fractional ownership in Chandler Point on beautiful Kashagawigamog Lake. A fully furnished, 3 bdrm/2 bath cottage steps from the beach and outdoor activities. Bring your personal items and groceries to enjoy a maintenance free cottage life. Chandler Point offers a boat dock, canoes/kayaks for use, a playing field and campfire site located on the point to take in amazing views. Annual fee includes property taxes, maintenance and contribution to a reserve fund for ongoing improvements to the cottage and land. Allotted 5 weeks use through the year and shared with 9 owners.

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**\$1,675,000**



Stunning year-round waterfront home or cottage. This 3 bdrm/3 bath home offers spacious living and high-end finishing's. A well-appointed kitchen with quartz countertops and large island for incredible prep space. Living room features a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace and soaring windows for big lake views. Four-season sunroom with slate flooring opens to deck and large, landscaped level yard for all your entertaining needs. Large master bedroom with a dream 4 piece ensuite. Main floor laundry, ample parking, double detached garage and much more. Enjoy a fun-filled day along the sandy beach area with a safe and gradual walk into deep clean swimming.

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Sincerely  
Linda Baumgartner  
& The Haliburton Real Estate Team